



## MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

### STATE OF MAINE

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The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on January 9, 2013, at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Steven Pound; Vice Chair Nancy Perkins; Martha Harris; James Banks, Sr.; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; Peter Geiger; Ande Smith; William Beardsley; Chelsey Whynot; and Kristin Bishop.

Also present were: Commissioner Steven Bowen; Ann Pinnette, School Construction Specialist; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education

#### **CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair Steven Pound called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

#### **MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

Nancy Perkins asked the Board to join her in a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newton, Connecticut.

The State Board sent a condolence letter to Alan Taylor, Chair, Connecticut State Board of Education.

#### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Read by Chair, Steven Pound: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed, to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

- Following the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, the department worked on updating their website. A note went out to all school districts asking them to review their emergency plans which they are required to have. The department has a model plan that covers hazmat, fires, etc. This plan requires districts to work with their local district first responders and law enforcement
- The Governor will be presenting the supplemental and biennial budgets on Friday, January 11.
- The Legislative Session is underway and there will be discussion on the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness bill, continued discussion on LD 1422, and

- implementation of the standards based diploma and how we can support it.  
There will be discussion on Charter Schools, school choice, and accountability.
- The department will be looking at opportunities and things they should be doing. A meeting will be coming up in about a month with the entire PK-20 Team - Curriculum folks, Adult Ed folks, Special Education Team, Career and Technical Team, will all get together to talk about how they can create some processes and procedures to more narrowly target their resources.
  - The department is continuing to work on the waiver.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the December 12, 2012 minutes as written.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **FEDERAL QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND PROGRAM**

**STATEMENT OF FACT:** The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities. Maine has a 2010 QSCB balance of \$9,114,156 available for allocation to school units.

Eleven school administrative units submitted QSCB applications to the Department during the current application cycle requesting bonding authority. The Department has completed its review of the applications and verified that the school units on the accompanying list and their proposed projects meet the criteria of using bond proceeds for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of a public school facility or for acquisition of land on which such a facility is to be constructed.

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** The Construction Committee considered this exhibit at its January 2, 2013, meeting and is unanimously recommending that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Brewer, York, RSU 9, RSU 17/MSAD 17, RSU 22/MSAD 22, RSU 25, RSU 44/MSAD 44, RSU 55/MSAD55, RSU 73, RSU 80/MSAD 4 and RSU 88/MSAD 24 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list "2013 QSCB Recommended Approvals." The total current recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2013 is \$9,114,156.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:** The Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Brewer, York, RSU 9, RSU 17/MSAD 17, RSU 22/MSAD 22, RSU 25, RSU 44/MSAD 44, RSU 55/MSAD55, RSU 73, RSU 80/MSAD 4 and RSU 88/MSAD 24 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list "2013 QSCB Recommended Approvals." The total current recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2013 is \$9,114,156.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by James Banks, Sr., and unanimously voted by those present to approve the QSCB applications for projects in Brewer, York, RSU 9, RSU 17/MSAD 17, RSU 22/MSAD 22, RSU 25, RSU 44/MSAD 44, RSU 55/MSAD55, RSU 73, RSU 80/MSAD 4 and RSU 88/MSAD 24 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list “2013 QSCB Recommended Approvals.” The total current recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2013 is \$9,114,156.

## **OFFICER’S REPORTS:**

### **Chair, Steven Pound:**

- He distributed a copy of the Board’s budget and gave a brief description on where the budget is at this time. The Board is half way through the year and the budget is on schedule. The curtailment was taken from the Personal Services (per diem) account.
- He met with Don Siviski and Grant Individuals on December 12 with Hewlett Packard. The Department of Education is looking for funding for projects they want to do throughout the State.
- He attended a Tri-County Local Workforce Investment Board meeting on December 15. All four Workforce Development Boards in the State have voted to increase monies allocated for training to 30%.
- He attended the Educate Maine Conference on December 14. There were approximately 300 people in attendance and they had some great workshops. Peter Geiger and Ande Smith attended as well.
- The company that he works for, Cianbro, is looking at initiatives with Kennebec Community College to offer transmission construction courses.

### **Vice Chair, Nancy Perkins:**

#### ***Report of Meetings:***

##### ***➤ Certification and Higher Education Committee Report:***

The December Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting was canceled twice due to weather conditions. Doug and Shirley Spaulding who are Department of Education Mentor Trainers have agreed to attend the January 28 meeting.

##### ***➤ New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC):***

The Consortium (Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire) has four goals: Increase five year graduation rates, decrease annual dropout rates, increase the percentage of students enrolling in two-and four –year college degree programs or pursuing industry-certified accredited post-secondary certificates, and increase the percentage of students who graduate from high school college-ready. These goals align with the following objectives that will necessitate changes of practice: implementation of proficiency-based graduation, multiple and flexible pathways, and learner centered systems of accountability. The U MASS Donahue Institute did an evaluation report of the first four years of this consortium that provides more information. This report can be reviewed at the NESSC website.

➤ ***Update on College Review Process:***

Harry Osgood has retired. His position has been posted. This will not be an easy position to fill. Harry has been an incredible resource for the State Board and through his leadership, the Department of Education has developed an exemplary higher education division. The State Board owes Harry a debt of gratitude for his dedication to all of the students of Maine and the Board should send a letter to Harry Osgood. The consensus of the Board is to recognize Harry with a letter of appreciation from the State Board.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

**Martha Harris:**

➤ ***Construction Committee:***

The Construction Committee met on January 2, 2013.

Attending: James Banks, Sr.; Peter Geiger; Martha Harris; Scott Brown; and Ann Pinnette

Minutes from the December 4, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

The Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCBS) were presented by Ms. Pinnette with exhibits. It was noted that there were over \$22 million in qualified requests for \$9.1 million in funds. Department determined that awarding by percentages (41%) was the most equitable way to handle the requests. Committee unanimously agreed and recommended that the Board approve the awards. Unfortunately, these funds are coming to an end. Many districts have utilized these funds for needed construction/renovation projects.

Scott Brown provided an update of the approved major construction projects. After much discussion, it was decided that Chair Harris would meet with the Commissioner to determine how the Board could best assist with school construction, particularly in the area of research into the feasibility of comprehensive CTE and high school centers.

- She has been working with her local school Board.

**Chelsey Whynot:**

- She and Kristin are working on the student portion of the strategic plan regarding the contribution of the student representatives on the Board.

**Kristin Bishop:**

- She distributed a copy of her report on the Somerset Career and Technical Education Center. The back section of the report shows the conversation she had with students and teachers. They have requested that she help them create a survey for Maine students, at least the five districts that attend Somerset Career

and Technical Center, to evaluate what the knowledge base is for students in the area and what they think Career and Technical Education is. They are looking to get a broader enrollment of students across the five districts.

- She is hoping to observe a teaching standards base class at an Elementary school. She is very excited to sit in on the class and take some notes.

**William Beardsley:**

- He met with Meg Harvey and is trying to get a broader understanding of Career and Technical Education.
- He has been reading Title 20 regarding the responsibilities of the State Board.

**Ande Smith:**

- He attended the Educate Maine Conference as a professional development opportunity on December 14. He had an opportunity to speak with the Principal of Norway High School and she talked about implementing standards based techniques in her school.
- He has done some work internally to identify some of the things he would like to accomplish while serving on the Board. He will be speaking with Steve Pound and other Board members to see what he can do to be supportive of the board's mission.

**Heidi Sampson:**

- She participated in Charter School Review Team meetings.

**Peter Geiger:**

- He attended the Educate Maine Conference on December 14.
- The Maine Teacher of the Year Program has been launched and he will be participating in the application process. The department is accepting nominations for Maine's 2014 Teacher of the Year thru February 1, 2013.
- On a personal level, he has an arrangement with the technology students at the Lewiston Regional Technical Center to come over to his office and talk to his 15 +- technology people to do an exchange so they will understand what technology people do.
- This is his 25<sup>th</sup> year adopting Montello Elementary School. When he started this in 1987 there were 944 students. It is a pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade school and there are 800 +- students right now. It is a very in depth program. At one time there were 25 or 30 different partnerships going in the cities of Lewiston/Auburn. Over the years it has slowed down, but there are still a lot of really great things going on between businesses and schools.

**Jana Lapoint:**

- She has been busy with the Charter School Commission and gave an update on where the commission is at, to date.

**James Banks, Sr.:**

- He attended the Construction Committee meeting on January 2.
- He has attended several Charter Commission meetings.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the January 9, 2013 State Board of Education meeting at 2:19 PM.